

Reporting Suspected Child Abuse

Children who have problems may share them with their tutor. A child may confide in a trusted tutor that he/she has been abused or neglected (see Types of Abuse/Neglect, page). If this happens, the tutor must maintain a calm manner and help the child by following these procedures:

1. Listen carefully to everything the child voluntarily tells you. Do not ask questions about what happened, who did what, when, or where. Questions disturb children, may jeopardize future investigations, and are nonproductive in general.
2. You may comfort the child as best you can, without probing for more information. Try reading a story or looking over work already completed. Try to keep the child from feeling rejected or different. When the tutoring time is over, return the child to the classroom with reassurances that you will meet at the next tutoring session. When you have left the child, do the following things immediately:

* Student tutors involved in a Cross-age Tutoring program are minors. They should be advised to contact an adult (Cross-age Tutoring Coordinator, school principal, classroom teacher, parent or guardian) for assistance with reporting abuse.

1. Write word for word what the child told you.
2. Call the appropriate **State Child Abuse Reporting** phone number (see page).
3. Be prepared to report as much of the required information as possible (page).
3. Ask the person who takes your information for instruction about how to proceed. Following their instructions.
4. At the next tutoring session, continue to tutor the child as if nothing has occurred.
5. If the child brings up the situation again, call the State Child Abuse Reporting phone number again. If it has been investigated, but action has not been taken, it may be because the investigation failed to produce compelling evidence of abuse.

It is Federal law to report child abuse. If you do not report, you are considered as guilty as the perpetrator and will be so treated.

Types of Abuse/Neglect that should be reported

- **Physical Abuse** (non-accidental: giving child; non-prescribed medication that results in harm, illegal substances, promoting bodily injury/abuse)
- **Sexual Abuse** (inappropriate touching, molesting or sexual intercourse)
- **Physical Neglect** (inadequate food, clothing, shelter or dangerous home environment)
- **Chronic Neglect** (pattern of not providing for child's safety, health or wellbeing)
- **Medical Neglect** (not providing needed medical/dental/mental health, or medicines)
- **Neglect** (failure to provide needed care: educational, protection, abandonment)
- **Non-supervision** (inappropriate supervision for child's age – dangerous to child)
- **Emotional Abuse** (name calling, corrupting, threatening harm, rejecting, isolating, terrorizing, ignoring, abusing animals in front of a child, providing child with harmful materials (porn, cigarettes, alcohol).
- **Failure to Protect** (fails to take reasonable action to prevent abuse. Includes, covering for abuser.)
- **Child Endangerment** (child is placed in situation of unreasonable risk of harm)
- **Dependency** (child is homeless or is without proper care through no fault of parent- parent institutionalized, disabled or lacks resources to provide, anonymous relinquishment of a newborn).
- **Domestic Violence** (physical violence or psychological violence or threat of violence, isolation, controlling another through intimidation or manipulation, repetitive degradation, sexual violence, harassment, limiting reproductive freedom, not allowing physical freedom, etc)

Child Abuse Reporting Phone Numbers by Region:

Northern (Ogden area): 801-395-5911

Salt Lake Area: 801-281-5151

Western (Provo Area): 801-376-8261

Eastern (Vernal/Price area): 800-612-9293 or 435-637-0890

Southwestern (St. George): 800-202-5656 or 801-652-2960

Information Needed for Reporting
(*required information)

1. ***Victim's name, living area** (if known: address/school, phone, day-care information, etc.)
2. Name of parent of victim, address, phone, employment/military information
3. Perpetrator's name, address, phone (if unknown you can still report)
4. ***What abuse occurred** (how known: witness, child told, etc.)
5. Where and when abuse occurred
6. ***Physical evidence? Or witnesses? Or child report?**
7. You may give your name or remain anonymous (willing to testify if necessary?)
8. Other members in victim's household
9. Accessibility of alleged perpetrator to victim
10. Precautions recommended for intervention (would anyone be put in Danger by our intervention, is there a history of domestic violence in the home?)
11. Collateral contacts (others we can contact for information)